PLAYMATES 1976 Sounds

TO SOUNDS readers, the future of rock 'n' roll belongs to Queen. They won Best Band, Album and Single sections in an unprecedented show of strength.

In just over a year Queen have risen from third best new band (in last year's poll) to the most successful winners of the '76 poll.

Aside from winning accalaim for 'Bohemian Rhapsody' and the album 'A Night At The Opera,' each individual member of Queen placed in their respected categories. The previous year Brian May, Freddie Mercury, Roger Taylor and John Deacon were not even mentioned.

Meanwhile that Stateside future of rock 'n' roll, Bruce Springsteen had a relatively poor showing in our poll despite the commercial onslaught and hype. Springsteen had the dubious honour of placing third as bore of the year, right behind the Bay City Rollers and Tony Blackburn. Simultaneously, the New Jersey rocker placed fifth as best new artist.

Curiously enough, the Who fared better last year during a period of inactivity when they won best band. Roger Daltrey, however, skyrocketed to best male vocalist beating out Robert Plant and Paul Rogers in the process.

Keith Moon won best drummer, John Entwistle placed second on bass, and Pete Townshend placed third in best musician and second as composer. The Who By Numbers was voted third best album of the year.

Big winners this year include Mike Oldfield who once again won best musician and for the first time best composer. Rick Wakeman also fared well scoring points with best keyboard player and second best musician.

Maddy Prior took the best female singer crown away from Kiki Dee while Ritchie Blackmore stole the best guitarist throne from Eric Clapton who fell down five places. Page was the runner-up while his band Led Zeppelin placed second to the Queen.

Yes has a less successful year than previous poll awards, although Chris Squire won best bassist and the group placed third in the best band category, while Steve Howe held steady in third of the guitarist section.

Both the album and singles section were won by established acts. Queen, Led Zeppelin and the Who took the first three album places, while single honours went to Queen, 10cc for 'I'm Not In Love' and David Bowie for the re-released 'Space Oddity' a curious choice when 'Golden Years' was so much superior.

Television and radio selections were equally predictable with Old Grey Whistle Test retaining its number one spot. John Cleese and his Fawlty Towers placed second showing off the good taste of SOUNDS readers. Amiable John Peel took over top disc jockey honours from Alan Freeman.

For the future we're left with Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow as best new band. Dr Feelgood placed second and Be-Bop Deluxe third. Last year's winners was Bad Company who fell into a slump in '75 poll popularity, spending much of the year abroad.

With Queen's astounding success toppling more established bands and guitarist Ritchie Blackmore securing the top guitar spot, rock 'n' roll is finally moving into the seventies and away from the sixties, despite the fact that old favourites dominated.

Where were the Rolling Stones anyway?

MUSICIAN

1. MIKE OLDFIELD
2. RICK WAKEMAN
3. PETE TOWNSHEND
4. Keith Emerson
5. Paul McCartney
6. Jimmy Page
7. Brian May
8. David Bowie
9. Roy Wood
10. Ritchie Blackmore

BAND

1. QUEEN
2. LED ZEPPELIN
3. YES
4. Who
5. Genesis
6. Pink Floyd
7. Roxy Music
8. Emerson, Lake & Palmer
9. 10cc
10. Eagles

FEMALE SINGER

1. MADDY PRIOR
2. KIKI DEE
3. JONI MITCHELL
4. Maggie Bell
5. Sonja Kristina
6. Elkie Brooks
7. Linda Lewis
8. Linda Ronstadt
9. Sandy Denny
10. Annie Haslam

BASS

1. CHRIS SQUIRE
2. JOHN ENTWISTLE
3. PAUL McCARTNEY
4. John Wetton
5. Greg Lake
6. John Paul Jones
7. John Deacon
8. Jack Bruce
9. Glenn Hughes
10. Mike Rutherford

DRUMS

1. KEITH MOON
2. CARL PALMER
3. GINGER BAKER
4. Ian Paice
5. John Bonham
6. Roger Taylor
7. Phil Collins
8. Alan White
9. Paul Thompson
10. Billy Cobham

MALE SINGER

1. ROGER DALTREY
2. ROBERT PLANT
3. PAUL RODGERS
4. Freddie Mercury
5. Jon Anderson
6. David Bowie
7. Rod Stewart
8. Peter Gabriel
9. Bryan Ferry
10. Greg Lake

GUITAR

1. RITCHIE BLACKMORE
2. JIMMY PAGE
3. STEVE HOWE
4. Brian May
5. Eric Clapton
6. Rory Gallagher
7. Pete Townshend
8. Phil Manzanera
9. Ronnie Wood
10. Bill Nelson
11. Robin Trower

WIND INSTR

1. IAN ANDERSON
2. ANDY MACKAY
3. PETER GABRIEL
4. Roy Wood
5. David Bowie
6. John Anthony Helliwell
7. Thijs Van Leer
8. Nik Turner
9. Mike Oldfield
10. Dave Jackson

OF THE YEAR Readers Poll

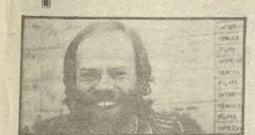
ALBUM

1. A NIGHT AT THE OPERA, QUEEN
2. PHYSICAL GRAFFITI, LED ZEPPELIN
3. THE WHO BY NUMBERS, WHO
4. Wish You Were Here, Pink Floyd
5. Lamb Lies Down On Broadway, Genesis
6. Siren, Roxy Music
7. Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow, Rainbow
8. Straight Shooter, Bad Company
9. Atlantic Crossing, Rod Stewart
10. Sabotage, Black Sabbath

SINGLE

1. BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY, QUEEN
2. I'M NOT IN LOVE, 10CC
3. SPACE ODDITY, DAVID BOWIE
4. I Believe In Father Christmas, Greg Lake
5. Sailing, Rod Stewart
6. Love Is The Drug, Roxy Music
7. Feel Like Makin' Love, Bad Company
8. Imagine, John Lennon
9. All Around My Hat, Steeleye Span
10. Blue Guitar, Justin Hayward/John Lodge

TV SHOW



1. OLD GREY WHISTLE TEST
2. FAWLTY TOWERS
3. Q.6 4. Supersonic
5. Top Of The Pops 6. Goodies
7. Porridge 8. Sweeny
9. Kojak 10. Rising Damp

DISC JOCKEY

1. JOHN PEEL
2. ALAN FREEMAN
3. JOHNNIE WALKER
4. Noel Edmonds
5. Kenny Everett
6. Nicky Horne
7. Bob Harris
8. Anne Nightingale
9. Jimmy Savile
10. Rosko

COMPOSER

1. MIKE OLDFIELD
2. PETE TOWNSHEND
3. FREDDIE MERCURY
4. David Bowie
5. Rick Wakeman
6. Steve Howe/Jon Anderson
7. Paul McCartney
8. Jimmy Page/Robert Plant
9. Elton John/Bernie Taupin
10. Bryan Ferry

LP SLEEVE

1. PHYSICAL GRAFFITI
2. CAPTAIN FANTASTIC
3. WISH YOU WERE HERE
4. Relayer
5. Siren
6. The Who By Numbers
7. Atlantic Crossing
8. Young Americans
9. Come Taste The Band
10. Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow

KEYBOARDS

1. RICK WAKEMAN
2. KEITH EMERSON
3. JON LORD
4. Patrick Moraz
5. Tony Banks
6. Ken Hensley
7. Elton John
8. Freddie Mercury
9. Ian McLagen
10. Eddie Jobson

BEST NEW BAND/ARTIST

1. RITCHIE BLACKMORE'S RAINBOW
2. DR FEELGOOD
3. BE-BOP DELUXE
4. Camel
5. Bruce Springsteen
6. Sailor
7. Supertramp
8. Back Street Crawler
9. Streetwalkers
10. Heavy Metal Kids

BORE

1. BAY CITY ROLLERS
2. TONY BLACKBURN
3. BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN
4. Telly Savalas
5. Steve Harley
6. Top Of The Pops
7. Queen
8. John Peel
9. Kenny
10. Led Zeppelin